

# County of Los Angeles Fire Department

## *MEDIA ADVISORY*



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FIRE CHIEF P. MICHAEL FREEMAN  
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Los Angeles, CA 90063

### **URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE DRILL** International Disaster Drill

- WHO:** Los Angeles County Fire Department (**LACoFD**) Urban Search and Rescue Team (**USAR**), a six person multinational evaluation team selected by the United Nations, along with representatives from the Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (**OFDA**), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (**FEMA**), the Office of Emergency Services (**OES**), and observers from the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (**INSARAG**) operating under the United Nations (UN) Umbrella.
- WHEN:** **Saturday, January 20, 2007 2:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.**  
**Sunday, January 21, 2007 6:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.**
- WHERE:** Del Valle Regional Training Center - TB4549 C-3  
28101 Chiquito Canyon Road, Castaic, CA 91383-4640
- WHAT:** Los Angeles County Fire Department Urban Search and Rescue Team will undergo an evaluation of our team's ability to mobilize, deploy, and operate in a manner consistent with the United Nations International Search and Rescue criteria. The evaluation will be conducted by a United Nations appointed classification team who will score the operation based on standards adopted by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG). These standards classify international rescue teams based on their capacity and capability to perform sustained rescue operations. The standard being pursued by the LACoFD/USAR team is referred to as a "Heavy Team" classification.
- VISUALS:** Collapsed buildings with trapped victims as a result of a major earth quake occurring overseas. Highly trained members from LACoFD Urban Search and Rescue Team performing rescue operations.
- CONTACT:** Inspector Jason Hurd, PIO, (213) 247-7686, Battalion Chief Thomas Ewald, USAR, (213) 379-2880

**Note:** **DRILL WILL PROCEED IN ANY WEATHER CONDITIONS**  
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*Our Vision* The Los Angeles County Fire Department will be an exemplary organization acclaimed for our national reputation, our regional strength, and our hometown attentiveness as we provide fire protection and life safety services.

#### *Core Values*

**INTEGRITY ♦ TEAMWORK ♦ CARING ♦ COURAGE ♦ COMMITMENT ♦ COMMUNITY**